BRET HARTE'S NEW ROMANCE

SNOWBOUND AT EAGLE'S.

[Copyright, 18 A, by Bret Harts.] CHAPTER III.

To Rate's surprise, the lower part of the house was deserted, but there was an unusual ectivity on the floor above and the sound of heavy steps. There were allen marks of dusty lest on the scrupulously clean passage and on the first step of the stairs a spot of blood. With a sudden genuine atarm that drove her previ-ous adventure from her mind, she impatiently called her sister's name. There was a hasty yet subdued rustle of skirts on the staircase. and Mrs. Hale, with her finger on her lip, swent into the sitting room, closed the door, and leaned back against it with a faint smile. She had a crumpled paper in her hand.

had a crumpled paper in her hand.
"Don't be alarmed, but read that first," she
said, handing her sister the paper, "It was

brought just now."

Kate instantly recognized her brother's distinet hand. She read hurriedly: "The coach nothing but a day's time, as this business will keep me here until to-morrow, when Manuel can join me with a fresh horse. alarm. As the bearer goes out of his way to bring you this, see that he wants for nothing."

"Well?" said Kate expectantly,
"Well, the 'bearer' was fired upon by the robbers, who were turking on the Ridge. He was wounded in the leg. Luckly he was picked up by his friend, who was coming to meet him, and brought here as the nearest place. He's up stairs in the spare hed in the spare room with his friend, who won't leave his side. He won't even have mother in the room. They've stopped the bleeding with John's ambulance to show the value of your education in the ambulance class. The ball has got to be extracted.

Here's your opportunity."

Kate looked at her sister curiously. There was a faint pink flush on her pule cheeks, and her eyes were gently sparkling. She had never seen her look so pretty before.
"Why not have sent Manuel for a doctor at

once?" asked Kate.
"The nearest doctor is fifteen miles away.

and Manuel is nowhere to be found. Perhaps he's gone to look after the stock. There's some talk of snow; the absurdity of it." "But who are they ?"

They speak of themselves as 'friends,' as if it were a profession. The wounded one was a passenger, I suppose,"
"But what are they like?" continued Kate.

"I suppose they're like them all."
Mrs. Hale shrugged her shoulders.

"The wounded one, when he's not fainting, laughing. The other is a creature with a moustache, and gloomy beyond expression,"
"What are you to do with them?" said Kate.

"What should I do? Even without John's letter I could not refuse the shelter of my bouse to a wounded and helpless man. I shall keep him of course until John comes. Why. Kate, I really believe you are so prejudiced against these people you'd like to turn them out. But I forget! It's because you like them so well. Well, you need not lear to expose yourself to the fascinations of the wounded

yourself to the fascinations of the wounded Christy Minstrel-I'm sure he's that—or of the unspeakable one who is shyness itself, and would not here to raise his eyes to you."

There was a timed, hesitating step in the passage. It paused before the door, moved away, returned, and flually assorted its intentions in the gent est of tays.

"It's him: I'm sure of it," said Mrs. Hale, with a suppressed simile.

Kate thew open the door smartly, to the extreme discomfiture of a tail, dark fluore that already hads ank away from it. For all that, he was a good looking enough fellow, with a moustache as long and almost as flexible as a ringlet. Kate coud not help noticing also that his hand, which was nervously pulling the moustache, was white and thin.



"EXCUSE ME," HE STAMMERED. "Excuse me," he stammered, without raising

"Excuse me," he stammered, without raising his eyes, "I was looking for—for—the old ladv. I—I beg your nardon. I didn't know that you —the yours lades—company—were here. I intended—I only wanted to say that my friend—" He stopped at the slight smise that passed quickly over Mrs. Ha o's mooth, and his pale face redd-ned with an angry flush.

"I hope he is not worse," said Mrs. Hale, with more than her usual languid kentleness." My mother is not here at present. Can I—can ne—this is my sister—do as well?"

Without looking up he made a constrained recognition of Kate's presence, that, embarrassed and curt as it was, had none of the awkwardness of rusticity.

"Thank you; you're very kind. But my friend as little stronger, and if you can lend me an extra horse I'il try to get him on the summit to-night."

"But you surely will not take him away from as 90 soon," said Mrs. Hale, with a languid look of slarm, in which Kate, however, detected a certain real feeling. "Wait at least until my husband returns to-morrow." and the stranger hastily. He stopped, and as quickly corrected himself. "That is, his business is so very uncertain, my friend says."

Only Kate noticed the slip: lust she noticed also that her sister was, a poarantly, unconscious of it. "You think," she said, "that Mr. Hale may be desayed?"

He turned upon her almost brusquely. "I

Ha e may be desayed?

also that her sister was, apparently, unconscious of it. "You think," sho said. that Mr. Hale may be delayed?"

He turned upon her almost brusqueiy. "I mean that it is already snowing up there:" he pointed through the window to the cloud Kate had noticed: "If it comes down lower in the pass the roads will be blocked up. That is why it would be better for us to get on atonce."

"But if Mr. Hale is likely to be stopped by snow so are you." said Mrs. Hale payfully; and you had better let us try to make your friend comfortable here rather than exposition to that uncertainty in his weag con lition. We wild do out lest for him. My suberts dying for an apportunity to show her skill in surgery, she continued with an unexpected mischeyousness that only added to Kate's surprised embarrassment. "Aren't you. Kate?" Equivoca as the young girl knew her slience appeared, she was made to utter the simplest poilte evasion. Some maccontained in insules kept her constrained and speechless. The stranger did not, however, want for her reply, but casting a swift, nurried glance around the room, and: I is impossible, we must go. In fact, I was fready taken the there's to order the horses round. They are at the door now. You may be certain, he added, with quick earnest hess surden y lifting his dark oves to Mrs. Hase, and as rapidly withdrawing ihem. that your horse will be returned at once and and some for the horse will be returned at once and and some horse will be returned at once and and some horse will be returned at once and and some horse will be returned at once and and some horse will be returned at once and and some horse will be returned at once and and your horse will be returned at once and and some horse will be returned at once and and some horse will be returned at once and and your horse will be returned at once and and turned toward the hall. "I I I have brought my friend down stairs. He would have brought my friend down. To their surprise."

brought my friend down stairs. He wants to thank rou before be goes.

As he remained standing in the hall the two women sterped to the door. To their surprise half recining on a cone soft was the wounded man, and what could be seen of his slight figure was wrapped in a dark sector. His beard less face gave him a quarte twishness quite inconsistent with the mature trees of his temples and force each. Pare and in pain as he evidently was his bine even twinked with intense and some seal. Pare and the pain as he evidently was his bine even twinked with intense of his generation, but he seemed to be the only one terfectly at his case in the given around him.

"It's either rough making you come out her."

convoines terfective at the season to be the convoines terfective at the season to the ground around him.

"It's eather rough making you come out be to see me off." he say at, with a not ununear laught that we svery attentions. "but Neet the who carried me down at its, wanted to the normal the house in his arms like a loady to say that it to you at. Leader my not rising, but feed as afterfain below as a mermand, and as out of my seement." Net concluded I must go on. But I must ground. "Net concluded I must go on. But I must say good by to the old safe first. All here she s."

To Kate's compacte switch ment not only did the atter human arity of his speech passumpeticed and unreloaded by ter sister, he actually her own motion advers and an amount of the supplies of the supp

they bewitched by this morose intruder and his insufferably familiar confident? The man was wounded, it was true; they might have to put him up in common humanity, but here was her austers mother, who would the come in the room when Whiskey Dick called on business, actually pressing both of the invalid's bonds, while her sister, who never extended a finger to the ordinary visitors of the neighborhood, looked on with evident comblaconers.

The wounded man suddeny raised Mrs. Scotts hand to his lips, kissed it gently, and, with his smile quite vanished, endeavored to riss to his feet. "It's of ho use-we must go, Give me your arm. Ned. Quick! Are the horses there?"

"Dear me," said Mrs. Scott, quickly. "I forgot to say the horses cannot be found anywhere. Manuel must have taken him this merning to look up the stock. But he will be back to-night certainty, and if to-morrow—"

The wounded man sank back, "Is Manuel your man?" he asked grimly.

"Yes."

The two men exchanged glances.

"Marked on his left cheek and drinks much?"

"Yes."

"He amused look came back to the man's oyes. "That ind of man ft len't safe to walt for. We must take our own horse, Ned. Are your ready?"

"Yes."

The wounded man again attempted to rise, the fell back, but this time quite heavily. He

for. We must take our own horse, Ned. Are you ready?"

Yes."

The wounded man again attempted to rise. He fell back, but this time quite heavily. He had fained.

Inveluntarily and simultaneously the three-women rushed to his side. "He cannot go," said Kate suddenly,

"He will be better in a moment,"

"But only for a moment. Will nothing induce you to change your mind?"

As if in reply a sudden gust of wind brought a volley of rain against the window.

"The will," said the stranger, bitterly.

"The rain?"

"A mile from here it is snow; and before we could reach the summit with these horses the road would be impassable."

He made a slight gesture to himself, as if accepting an inevitable defeat, and turned to his companios, who was slowly reviving under the active ministration of the two women. The woonfiel man looked around with a weak smile.

"This is one way of going off," he said, faintly, "but I could do this sort of thing as well on the road."

"You can do nothing now," said his friend, decidedly. "Before we get to the Gate the road will be impassable for our horses."

"For any horses?" asked Kate.



THE WOUNDED MAN AGAIN ATTEMPTED TO RISE.

"For any horses. For any man or beast I might say. Where we cannot get out, no one can get in," he added, as if answering her thoughts. "I am afrail that you wen't see your brother to morrow morning. But I'll reconnotire as soon as I can do so without torturing him," he said, looking anxiously at the neithers man: 'he's got about his share of pain, I recon, and the first thing is to get him easier." It was the first thing is to get him easier." It was the first thing is to get him easier." It was the first me he had fairly cooked her it was the first me he had fairly cooked her it was the first me he had fairly cooked her in the face. His shy restlessness had said-enly given way to dogged resignation, less abstracted, but scarcedy more flattering to his entertainers. Lifting his companion gently in his arms, as if he had been a child he reascended the staircase, Mrs. Scott and the hastily summoned Mony following with overflowing solicitude.

As soon as they were alone in the parlor Mrs. Hale turned to her sister, 'Only that our guests seemed to be as anxious to go just now as you were to pack them off, I should have been shocked at your Inhospitality. What has come over you, Kate? These are the very people you have reproached me so often with not being civil enough to."

"How do I know? There is your brother's letter," was the renly.

She usually speeke of her husband as "John,"

"How who are they?"

"How do I know? There is your brother's letter," was the renty.

She usually spoke of her husband as "John," This slight shifting of relationship and responsibility to the feminine mind was significant. Kate was a little frightened.

"I only meant you don't even know their names," she said.

"That wasn't necessary for giving them a bed and bandages. Do you suppose the good Samarian ever asked the wounded Jow's name, and that the Levite did not excuse himself because the thieves had taken the poor man's card case? Do the directions 'In case of accident' in your ambulance rules read: 'First lay the sufferer on his back and inquire his name and family connections?' Besides, you can exit one 'Ned' and the other 'Gorge,' if you ike."

"Oh, you know what I mean," said Kate, irrelevantly. "Which is George?"

"George is the wounded man," said Mrs. Hale; "not the one who taked to you more than he did to any one else. I suppose the poor man was frightened and read dismissal in your eyes."

"I wash John were here."

than he did to any one else. I suppose the poor man was frightened and read dismissal in your eyes."

"I wish John were here."

"I don't think we have anything to fear in his absence from men whose only wish is to get away frem us. If it is a question of properlety, my dear Kate, surely there is the presence of mother to prevent any scandal—athough really her own conduct with the wounded one is not above susticion." she added, with that novel mischievousness that seemed a return of her lost girlhood. "We must try to do the hest we can with them and for them," she said, decidedly, "and meantime I'm see if I can't arrange. John's room for them."

"John's room?"

"Oh, mother is perfectly satisfied; indeed, suggested it. It's larger and with held two leads, for 'Ned,' the friend, must attend to him at might, And, Kate, don't you talk, if you'renot going out again, you might change your costume? It does very well while we are "Well," said Kate indignantly. "as I am not

"On, mortion; as perfectly actished; indeed, suggested it. It's league and with held two for a suggested it. It's league and with held two for any optimum?, It does very well white we are of "Well," said Kateloniganally," as I am or college into his room-but that, if we can't gate require devel. But he is every resides and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and wanders all over the house like a timid and gard out the house like a timid and gard out the world in the house on the perfect of the house of

brought face to face. "It doesn't look very encouraging over there," he said quietly, as if the ine-tiableness of the situation had relieved bim of his previous shyness and effort; "It's even worse than I expected. The snow must have begun there has night, and it looks as if it meant to stay." He stopped for a moment, and then, lifting his eyes to her, said:

"I suppose you know what this means?"

"I don't understand you?"

"I thought not. Well! it means that you are absolutely cut off here from any communication or intercourse with any one outside of that cafe. By this time the snow is five feet deep over the only trail by which one can pass in and out of that gateway. I aim not alarming you. I hope, for there is no real physical danger. A place like this ought to be well garrisoned, and certainly is self-supporting so far as the mere necessities and even comforts are concerned. You have word, water, cattic and game at your communicity is other."



HALF FRIGHTENED, SHE WAS TURNING AWAY.

"For two weeks," said Kate, growing pale-"For two weeks," said Kate, growing pale—
"and my brother!"
"He knows all by this time, and is probably
as assured as I am of the safety of his family."
For two weeks, "continued Kate: "impossible! You don't know my brother! He will
find some way to get to us."
"I hope so," returned the stronger gravely,
"for what's tessible for him is possible for us."
"Then you are anxious to get away," hate
could not help saving.
"Very."

"Then you are anxious to get away," hate could not help saving.

"Very."

The reply was not discourteous in manner, but was so far from gailant that Kate fest a new and inconsistent resentment. Before she could say anything he added, "And I here you will remember, whatever may happen, that I did my best to avoid staving here longer than was necessary to keep my friend from bleeding to death in the road."

"Certainly," said Kate, then added awkwardly, "I hope he'll be better soon." She was giten, and then, quickening her nece, said. "I must tell my sister this dreadful news."

"I think she is prepared for it. If there is anything I can dato help you, I hope you will let me know. Perhaps I may be of some service. I shall begin by exporing the trails tomorrow, for the best service we can do you possibly is to take ourselves off, but I can carry a gue, and the woods are full of game driven down from the mountains. Let me show you something you may not have noticed." He stopped, and pointed to a small knowl of sheltered shrubbery and granite on the opposite mountain, which still remained black against the surrounding snow. It seemed to be the kly covered with moving objects. "They are wild animals driven out of the snow," said the stranger. "That larger one is a grizzly; there is a panther, wolves, wild cats, a fox, and some mountain goats."

"An in-assorted party," said the young girl. "Il luck maxes them companions. They are too frightened to hurt one another now."

"But they will eat each other later on," said Kate, stealing a glance at her companion.

He lifted his long lashes and met her eyes. "Not on a haven of refuge."

CHAPTER IV. Kate found her sister, as the stranger had intimated, fully prepared. A hasty inventory of provisions and means of subsistence showed that they had ample resources for a much

that they had ample resources for a much longer isolation.

They tell me it is by no means an uncommon case. Kate; somebody over at somebody's place was snowed in for four weeks, and now it appears that even the Summit House is not always accessible. John ought to have known it when he bought the place; in fact, I was ashamed to admit that he did not. But that is like John to prefer his own theories to the experience of others. However, I don't suppose we would even notice the privation except for the mails. It will be a lesson to John, though, as Mr. Lee says, he is on the outside, and can probably go wherever he likes from the summit except to come here."

Mr. Lee?" schood Kate.



of his speech, the freedom of his fancy, which was, however, alwars controlled by a certain instinctive tact, began to affect Kate nearly as it had the others. She found berwell isneshing over the work undefinited in a pure sense of duty; the joined in the hilarity produced by Lee's affected terror of her surgical mania, and offered to undo the bandases in search of the thimble he declared she had left in the wound with a view to further experiments.

"You ought to broaden your practice," he suggested. A good deal might be made out of Ned and a piece of soap left carriessity on the first step of the staircase, while mountains of surgical opportunities lie in a humble orange past judiciously exposed. Only I warr you that you wouldn't find him as docide as I am. Decoyed into a snowdrift and frozen, you might get some valuable experiences in resuscitation by thawing him."

"I fancied you had that already. Kate," whispered Mrs. Haie.

"Freezing is the new suggestion for painless surgery," and Lee, coming to Kate's relief with ready tact," only the knowledge should be more generally apread. There was a man up at Strawberry feil under a sledge load of wood in the snow. Stunned by the shock, he was slowly freezing to death, when, with a tramed is but his right leg, pinned down by a small log. His axe was within reach, and a lew blows on the log freed him."

"And saved the poor fellow's life," said Mrs. Scott, who was listening intently.

"At the expense of his leftling, which he had out off under the pleasing supposition that it was a low," returned Lee, demurely.

Nevertheless, in a few moments he managed to divert the slightly shocked susceptibilities of the old aday with some railiety of himself, and did not interrupt the even good-humored communion of the pearing supposition that it was not until Mrs. Scott rose with a warning that they were treapassing upon the rest of their railent that they discovered that the seening had slipped by unnoticed, Whien the door at last closed on the bright symmetry beneficion of t

"Yes-but this playing it on them-"



LEE LAZILY MOVED HIS HEAD.

"Who's playing it? Not you: I see you've given away our names alroady."

To conin't lie, and they know nothing by that," was the reply.

Do you think they would be happier by knowing it? Do you think that soft little creature would be as happy as she was to-night if she knew that her husband had been indirectly the means of laying me by the heefs here? Where is the swindie? This hole in my leg? If you had been five minutes under that gir's ded sympathetic fingers you'd have thought it was gondine. Is it in our trying to get away? Do you call that ten-feet drie in the pass a swindie? Is it in the chance of Hale getting bask while we're here? That's real enough, isn't it? I say, Ned, ded you ever give your unfettered in blicet to the contempation of that?"

Faikner did not reply. There was an interval of silence, but he could see from the movement of George's shoulders that he was shaking with suppressed langiter.

Fancy Mrs. Has a stelly introducing her husband! My off-ring him a ciair, but being all the time obliged to cover him with a derringer under the badelothes. Your rushing in from your pastoral pursuits, with a pitchfork in one hand and the girl in the other, and dear old mammy sempathizing all round and trying to make everything comfortable."

Though manage to pitchfork me and those two women on Haie's here and rule away; that's what you'd do, or I don't know you! Look here, Ned, 'he aided more seriousy, "the only swindling was our bringing that note here. That was gond loan, You thought it would remove suspicion, and as you believed I was biseding to death you played that want for all it was worth to save me. You might have done what I asked you to dopopped ne up in the bushes, and got away yourse f. I was good for a course of shots yet, and after that what mattered? Thint night, the next day the next time I take the read, or a year hence? It will come here it will come, all the same!"

He did not speak bitterly, not relax his mile.

the next day, the next time I take the real, or a year hence? It will come when it will come, all the same!"

He did not speak bitterly, nor relax his smile. Paikner, without speaking, said his hand along the coveriid. Lee grassed it and their bands remained casped tegether for a few moments in silence.

"How is this to end? We cannot go on here in this way" said Faikner suideaus.

in silence.

"How is this to end? We cannot go on here in this way," said Faikner suidenty.

"If we ennot get away it must go on. Look here, Ned, I dou't recken to take anything out of this house that I didn't bring in it, or isn't freely effered to me; yet I don't otherwise, you understand, intend making myself out a d—i bit better than I am. That's the only excuse I have for not making myself out must islant I am. I don't know the fellow who's obliged to tell every one the last company he was in, or the last thing he dot! Do you suppose even these pretty little women fell its their whole story? Do you fancy that this St. John in the wilderness is canonized in his family? Perhaps, when I take the liberty to intrude in his affairs, as he has in mine, he'd see he isn't. I don't blame you for being sensitive. Ned. It's natural. When a man lives outside the revised statutes of his own State he is any to be awfully fine on points of ediquette in his own household. As for me, I find it rather comfortable here. The beds of other peoples making strike me as being more satisfactory than my own. Good night.

In a few moments he was sleeping the peaceful sleep of that youth which seemed to be his own dominant quality. Faikner stood for a little space and watched him, feclowing the beyish times of his cheek on the pillow, from the sindow of the light brown hashes under his closed lids to the lifting of his stort upper lip over his white teeth, with his requisit respiration. Only a hard according the line of nestrif and pay and a faint depression of the temple, betrayed his a ready tried manhood.

The house had loan such to repose when Falkner returned to the window and remained looking out upon the storm. Saidenly he extinguished the light, and passing quickly to

Falkner returned to the window and remained looking out upon the storm. Saidenly he extinguished the light and passing quickly to the bed and his hand upon the sleeper. Lee opened his eyes instintly.

"Are you awake?"

"Fortherty,"
"Somebody is trying to get into the house!"
"Not two mer. Mexicans, I think. One looks like Macuel."

"Non-line and a said Lee gay y.

Not him sen?" said Lee gay y.

Not two men. Mexicans, I think. One looks like May not."

Ah. said Lee, sitting up.

"Well?"
Don't you see? He believes the women are alone, "Lee replied.

"The doe! The damned hound!"
Speak respectfully of one of my neople, if you please, and hand me my derringer. Light the candie again, and open the door. Let them get in questiv. They'd come here first, it's his room, you understand, and it there's any money it's here. Anyway, they must less here to get to the women's rooms. Leave Manual to me, and you take rare of the other."

I see.

Manuel knows the house, and will come first. When he's fairly in the room shut the door and go for the other. But no noise. This is just one of the sweetest things out-if it's done property!

"If I couldn't manage that fellow without turning down the leadlothes I'd kick myself. Hish. Steady now."

He laid down and shut his eyes as if in natural retoese. Only his right nand careless y placed under his plained, Faikher quiety supplemental one of the far and opposite wall, but left it on either side in releasy observable. Faikher quiety suppled into the missaig. The Light of the candle fainty life in matter side in releasy observable. Faikher quiety supplements fly ure in load seemed to have actually succumbed to sleep. The mutual non-small misses of a house in repose might have been missaige. The room is meants the sitence was broken only by the sound of the raw without. The recumber flyure in load seemed to have actually succumbed to sleep. The mutual non-small misses of a house of the same means the sitence was broken only by the sound of the raw without. The recumber flyure in load seemed to have actually succumbed to sleep. The mutual non-small misses of a house seemed to have actually succumbed to sleep. The mutual non-small misses in a load of a far least least the seemed to have a separated as if he had seem if. Another sleep and the figure end-red the ream. The door consideration of a tark head of tangeed hat

Voice true the bed.

Drop that, and come here."

He started back with an exclamation. The sleeper's even were wide oven; the sleeper's extended arm and pistol covered him.

"Silence! or that candle shines through you."

"Yes, Captain!" growled the astounded and fright-ned nail-breed. "Ididn't know you were here."

Lee raised himself and grasped the long whip in his left hand and whirled it round his head. "Will you dry up?"

The man sank back against the wall.
"Open that door now—soitly."
Manuel obsered with frembling fingers.
"Nel," said Les, in a low voice, "bring him in here, quick,"
There was a slight rustle, and Falkner appeared, bucking in another gasping figure, whose eyes were starting under the strong grasp of the captor at his throat.
"Slience," said Les; "all of you,"
There was a breathless pause. The sound of a door hesitatingly opened in the passage broke the stillness, followed by the gentle voice of Mrs. Scott.

Is anything the matter?"
Lee males slight gesture of warning to Falkner-of menace to the others. "Everything's the matter," he called out, cheering, "And's manuaged to had pull down the house trying to get at something from my said-je lags."

"I hope he has not hurt himself," broke in another voice mischleyously.
"Answer, you clumsy villan," whispered Lee, with twinkling eyes.



"I'm all right, thank you," responded Falkner, with unaffected awkwardness.

There was a sight murmuring of voices, and then the door was heard to close. Lee turned to Falkner.

"Disarm that hound and turn him loose outside and make no noise. And you, Manuell tell him what his and your chances are if he shows his black face here again."

Manuel cast a single, terrified, supplicating glance, more suggestive than words, at his confederate, as Falkner shoved him before him from the room. The next moment they were should descending the shirs.

"May I go too, captain?" entreated Manuel. "I swear to God.—"

"Shut the door!"

The man obeved.

"Now then," said Lee, with a broad, gratified smile, laying down is a whip and pistol within reach, and comfortably setting the pillows behind his back," we'll have a quiet confab. A sort of old-bashoned tak, sh? You're not looking well, Manuel. You're drinking too much again. It shoils your complexion."

Let me go, captain," pleaded the man, emboldened by the good-humored voice, but not near enough to notice a peculiar light in the speaker's eye.

"You've only just come, Manuel, and at considerable trouble, too, Well, what have you got to say? What's all this about? What are you doing here?"

The exprured man shuffled his feet nervousity, and attered a laugh of coarse disconditure.

"I see, You're bushful, We. I'l beap yor a ong. Come! You knew that Hane was away and these wappen were here without a man to help them. You thought you'd find some noney here, and have your own way generally, sh?"

The tone of Lee's voice inspired him to confidence; unfortunately it inspired him to confidence; unfortunately it inspired him to confidence; unfortunately it inspired him with familiarity a-so.

"I reckoned I had the right to a little fun on my own account, Cap. I reckoned ez one gentieman in the profession wouldn't interfere with another gentieman's little game, "he continued coarse(y." Stand up."

I reckoned to a my content of the first of a my own account. Cap. I reckoned ex one gentleman in the profession wouldn't interfere with asother gentleman's little game." he continued coarsety.

"Stand up."

"Wot for?"

"Up. I say!"

Manuel stood up and glanced at him.

"Utter a cry that might frighten these women, ashi by the living field they'll russ in hereony to find you lying dead on the floor of the house you'd hims notified."

He grasped the whin and laid the lash of it heaving twee over the rufflan's shoulders. Writing it suppressed agony, the man felt importangly on his knees.

"Now, listen!" said Lee, softly twirling the whip in the air. "I want to refresh your memory. Did you ever learn, when you were with me-before I was obliged to kick you out or gentlemen's comeany—to break into a private house? Answer!"

"No." stammered the wretch.

"Did you ever learn to rob a woman, a child, or any but a man, and that face to face?"

"No." repeated Manuel.

"Did you ever learn from me to lay a finger upon a woman, in anger or kindness?"

"No." repeated Manuel.

"Did you ever learn from the lay a finger upon a woman, in anger or kindness?"

"No." repeated Manuel.

"Did you ever learn from the lay a finger upon a woman, in anger or kindness?"

"No." the according to the house struck you? I first have percented your morals. So, you were running off with the stock and that mustang, when you get stack in the snow and the hummens idenof this littlegame struck you? I fir? That was another mistake. Manuel, in ever allowed you to think when you were with me."

"No. Captain."

"No. Captain."

"No. Captain."

"No. Captain."

"No. I agree with you; but he hass't had a very brilliant example. Where s he gone now?"

"Then I want you to go with him. Listen. If there's a way out of the place you know it or can find it. Ligity you two days to do it—you and be. At the end of that time you'll be shot on sight. Now take off your boots."

"In not going to shoot you now," said Lee, smiling. so you will inve a chance to dewith your bo

ing the stockings outside strikes me as one of the hearest thints out."

Manuel drew off his boots with their muffled covering and put on the ones designated.

"Now open the door."

He did so, Faikner was already waiting at the threshood. "Turn Manuel ioose with the other, Ned, but disarm him lirst. They might quarred. The halt of carrying arms, Manuel, added Lee, as Faikner rook a pistol and bowle knife from the hall breed, its of itself provocative of violence, and inconsistent with a buce he and pastoral life."

When Faikner returned be said hurriedly to his companion." Do you think it wise, George to let took hell hounds loose? Good field! I could scarce y let my grip of his throatgo when I thought of what they were hunting."

My dear Ned, "said Lee, haverously ensecucing himself under the beleathes again with a slight shiver of deneious warmth." I must warn you against allowing the natural pride of a higher wask to projude e you against the general level of our projustion. Indeed, I was quite struck with the justice of Manuel's protest that I was interfering with certain rade processes of his own toward results aimed at hy other."

"George!" interrupted Falkner, savagoly.

"Well. I admit it's getting rather ale in the evening for pure ionit-sophical inquiry, and you are tired. Practically, then," it was wise to let them get away before they discovered two things. One, our exact real tons here with these women, and the other, low many of uswers here. At tycesont they think we are three or four in pessossion and with the consent of the women."

the women."
"The dags."
"They are maying us the highest compliment they can conserve of by supposing us a everor scenaric a than themselves. You are very unjust, Ned."

"They are earling us the highest compliment they can conceive of by supposite us a severy scoundre's than themselves. You are very unjust. Neat.

"If they escape and tell their story?"

"We shall have the rare aleasure of knowing we are better than people be now us. And now put those boots away somewhere where we can produce them of nocessary as evidence of Manuel's evening cail. At present we it keep the thing quiet, and in the early merning you can find out where they get in, and remove any traces they lave left. It is no use to trighten the women. There's no lear of their returning."

"And if they get away?"

"We am follow in their tracks."

"If Manuel gives the a arm?"

"With his burglarious hosts left behind in the house? Not much! Good-night, Ned. Go to bed."

With these words Bee turned on his side and queric resumed his interrupted shouler. Faikner did not, nower, bolow this sensible advice. When he was satisfied that his friend was sleeping he otened the deer softly and looked out. He rid not appear to be listening for his eves were fixed upon a small pencil of light that store across the passars from the fact of Kite's doer. He satelised until the addeniv disappeared, when, eaving the dorrartly open, he threw housent on his good without removing his colors. The sight movement awakened the sorter, and to a suppose the first him against the first of the across in the movement awakened the sorter of the sight movement awakened the sorter, and his good health a case in the first of the sight had say the first him against the first of the sight and say the left him against the first of the sight had say the left him against the sorter, the invest of his sight he can be shall make a first which a gain for the way to be still a surface the virial again for his still have a first him again for the had, if a surface the surface is said the without a surface of superstitions dreat.

"There don't lie there inventing sacrilegious constitues a little beer to had, he as a first to be superstitions dreat.

If the co

The Freedity of a Curyence Chief on the Trail of an Jersen's Chief on the State through the Chromosoft for the touture of the shift bry the Chromosoft for the touture of the shift bry the Chromosoft for the touture of the shift bry the Chromosoft for a sub-chief to core as Daw Killer was taken suddenly ill one night, and I was heatily send for a sub-chief to core as Daw Killer was taken to the shift of th

astonished to do more than gaze at him with open mouth.

Hist! Injuns looking!" he whispered.

White man watch toot all the time!"

So Doc Killer is my enemy?" I asked.

"Hear mad! Want to kill you!"

"Will the oig chief let him?"

"Big chief don't care!"

I lent over his foot, putting on a fresh poulties, and, after a bit, he continued:

"White medicine man must go away toolight. Lose sea pto-morrow!"

"How can I go?"

"See tree over there?"

It was to my left, and a quarter of a mile rom camp, a young tree growing alone a few yards from the river bank.

"Yes."

"When Injuns alone you come. Find ma.

Yes."
When Injuns sleep you come. Find me there."
"To-night?"
"Yes. White man heap medicine. Cure foot.

To-night?"

Yes. White man heap medicine. Cure foot. Foot most wed. Go back now."

I had finished dressing the wound, and he got up and returned to his lodge, and I soon builded up my herbs and sauntered in a careless way to mine, stopping here and there to examine the healing wounds of some of my patients. So far as the number went all were my friends, but none of them were veteran warriors or chois. They could speak in my favor, but they had no influences.

I was arranging some herbs over a slow frewhen Dog Killer entered my lodge. I made him a respectful sainte, and arranged the binkets for a seat, but he stood stiffly on the other side of the fire and glored down at median stiff of the fire and glored down at median there was such a devideh expression to his whole countenance that I could not keep my over on his face live seconds. I sainted again and pointed to the blankets, but he made no sign. I felt that his eyes never left me and I was son in a trouble. Such a risk the made no sign. I felt that his eyes never left me and I was son in a trouble.

illis naw was set, his eyes burning with hate, and there was such a devids expression to his whole countenance that I count not keep my eyes on his face il we seconds. I sainted again and pointed to the blankets, but he made no sign. I felt that his eyes never left me, and I was soon in a tremble. Such a visit boded me no good, and, though I tried bard to appear respectivity indifferent, he must have seen that I was badly broken up.

For ten long minutes Dog Killer maintained the position I have described. Then I could stand it no longer. Rising to my feet, I was thout to offer ima freship filled they, when he leaned over, spat full in my face, and hissed out, as he left the lodge:

"Baby! Dog!"

He had came to insult and degrade me, if not to provoke an excuse for killing me on the spot, and after he had departed I fully realized that with such an enemy in camp I could not feel certain of living another hour.

I did not leave my longe again until night, at which time I went to a lodge a few yards away to secure supper. The occupant was an aged squaw, who had not only been ordered to feel agains who had not only been ordered to feel me, but I had gained her gratifude by hen ing a rank sore on her neck, first caused by a splinter from a load of fagors she was carrying. She had an unusually hearity supper ready, and as she saw that I had but little appetents she looked cautiously about her and then made signs for me to eat all I could. When my looks expressed wonder she recorted to the sign language to demonstrate a min alone on the pinns striving to escape from something or somebody.

Hat my ledan stread taken her into his condicate? I had hard y asked myself the question when she answered it by pointing to the meat in the keitle, and then for the graveful oil squaw wished me Godspead.

It was after 10 o'clock, and the vinage had at 10 only the dogs are astir. Had I been stranged to heat him, when she and have proved in the ledges, but poone trushed on the nation and involved her bear. The graveful of the arine

prishing my destruction. He had picked up and londed the abandoned rile, and his builet cut cose to my head.

I drew up my rille to shoot him, but he did not flinch. He waved his hard, and tried to shout dedunes. I could not put trigger on a dying man, even it an enemy. I shouldered the weapon and walked brisky on, and I was only well out of range when he fired again. Five miles away I asserded a swell which gave me a good view of my trail, and I behied Dog Killer creening along over the eath like the incarnate flend he w.s. No wounded Bengal tiger was ever more determined on revenge.

Two hours before sundown I had the good fortune to fall in with a Lieurenant and ten men, bearing military destanthes. A hait was made and three men were sent to find Dog Killer and descatch him and secure his weapon. The devil was only eight miles away, being only two hours behind me in the all-day's walk. Death had come at lest, however, aithough he still clutched the rifle, and his glazed eyes seemed to be scanning my trail.

At daylight next morning I was safe in Fort Dodge, and I had the scalp of Dog Killer to prove the truth of my story.

A Housekeeper Discovers Why she Could A lady, recently returned from a long resi-

dence in California, said: "I was constantly meeting with fresh exampies of the strong ciannish spirit prevalent among the Chinese at the transcontinental seaboard. On one occasion I conferred with a Chinaman in regard to taking the family wash

by the mouth.
"'Twelve dolla,' be said. "'Too muchee,' I replied, in his own dialect.

'Other Culnaman eight dolla.'
"'No,' quickly. 'You pay Sing Lee ten dolla one day.' And I recalled that some time be'ore, while aving in a remote locality. I had indeed employed such an Oriental, retaining him only one month at that rate. one month at that rate.

"Later, in keeping house, I had a Chinese cook, several, in fact, one finally leaving me somewhat abruptly, on account of which I refused the ini month's wages. His first success-

somewhat alruptly, on account of which I refused the init month's wages. His first successor spent only a lew hours in my house before he gravely announced:

"Me so, me no stay."

"Two finished each a day, and then departed with the same lottef, emphatic deciaration. Number four anpeared quite satisfied for three days, but at the end of that time ha, too, followed his predicessors. In some concern, I called in my husband's office boy, a bright young Chinese Ial.

"Ching Fee, I hasked, 'what is the matter? Chinaman no stay here."

"Ah, he said, me know, may be, and he went into my kitchen, whither I followed him, wholly perplayed. He backed carefully all about peered into pots and kettes, undurned lubs and buckets, lifted dids, and turned over chairs, as if looking for something. When he pushed the clock from its place on the shelf be uttered a quick ery of discovery."

"Lackee, he said, and pointed to a row of Chinese hierogive phics on the back of the clock." Having them translated, I discovered that Sing Lee, my disaffected cook, had left his condemnation behind him."

"She verty bad woman; she no payee, he had written."

TOLD OF A MOUNLIGHTER. Beath of One of the Adventurers who Defied

the Maberts Torpede Menopoly. BRADFORD, Pa., Nov. 29 .-- A cheap pine offin and an obscure lot n the Potter's Field form the last resting place of William McNeil. one of the famous well shooters of the oil regions. When death came it overtook him in an obscure alley, within two paces of the door outside the looks without retained a running and without he long attacked. In all moved about anone then so one powers that, attoorgal sovery can be in the vitiage, from the oldest the sovery can be in the vitiage, from the oldest the sovery can be in the vitiage, from the oldest the sovery can be in the vitiage, from the oldest the sovery can be in the vitiage, from the oldest was after 10 o'clock, and the vitiage had been quiet for some time, before I moved. It was after 10 o'clock, and the vitiage had then been quiet for some time, before 1 moved. It was after 10 o'clock, and the vitiage had the looked way was the look. It was after 10 o'clock, and the vitiage had the looked way was the look. It was after 10 o'clock, and the vitiage of the looked like an obscure after, within two paces of the door of a rum hole. Liquor killed him. The body was found by the proprietor of the groggery.